

Name: KET

Date:

## SOCIAL STUDIES &gt; WORLD HISTORY &gt; SUMERIANS

## DEFINE

Can you explain the terms below in your own words?

**CIVILIZATION:** advanced society with complex social, political and cultural systems

**MESOPOTAMIA:** region within the fertile crescent between the Tigris and Euphrates River in modern day Iraq.

**FERTILE:** good for growing

**IRRIGATION:** diverting water using canals and levees to grow crops

**ARTIFICIAL:** **ZIGGURAT:** pyramids with terraces linked by ramps and stairs; used as a temple

**LEEVE:** (artificial flood banks) built up edges of canals designed to control flooding

**AGRICULTURE:** cultivation of plants and animals for food

**CULTIVATE:** to prepare and grow quality crops

**DIVISION OF LABOR:** specialization in specific jobs like pottery making, metalworking, weaving, baking, building

**CUNEIFORM:** wedge shaped writing

**CODIFY:**

Choose an additional term from the movie to define.



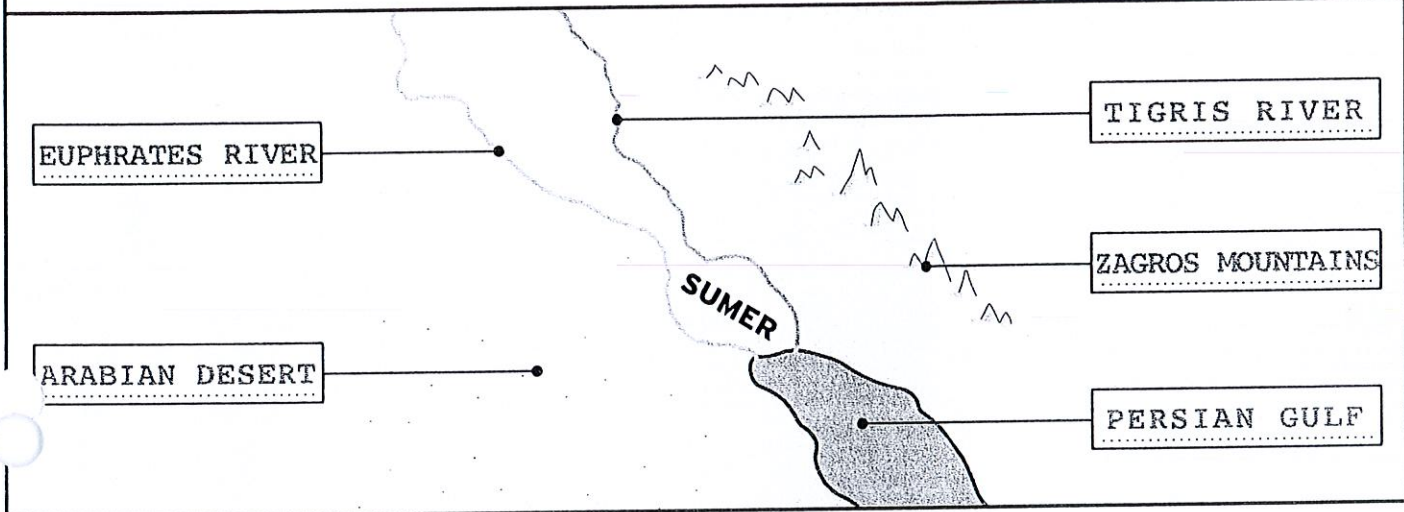
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## LABEL IT

Label the two rivers, the body of water they flow into, and the mountains and desert surrounding Sumer.



## LIST THE EXAMPLES

List examples of Sumerian firsts (things they did before any other civilization).

ADVANCED AGRICULTURE, WRITTEN LANGUAGE, LAWS AND GOVERNMENT,  
MAKING BRONZE, NUMBER SYSTEM BASED ON 60, WHEELED VEHICLES

## FILL IN THE BLANK

Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks.

1. Sumer was located in the region called MESOPOTAMIA.
2. The Sumerians used IRRIGATION to control flooding and divert water to fields.
3. Food Surplus ~~DIVISION OF LABOR~~ allowed Sumerians to pursue activities other than finding food.
4. To house their GOD, Sumerians built step pyramids called ZIGGURATS.

**SCORE: 10/10**

**1 What does a society need to have before the division of labor occurs?**

- A** A writing system
- B** A common religious faith
- C** A food surplus
- D** An irrigation system

**2 In which modern region was Sumer located?**

- A** The Middle East
- B** North Africa
- C** Southeast Asia
- D** Western Europe

**3 How did the Sumerians irrigate their crops?**

- A** With water from the Persian Gulf
- B** With rainwater
- C** With seawater
- D** With river water

**4**  **Which Sumerians worked atop ziggurats?**

- A** Politicians
- B** Priests
- C** Military leaders
- D** Scribes

**5 In what way did Sumer differ from societies that came before it?**

- A** Older societies cultivated corn; the Sumerians cultivated wheat
- B** Older societies had many gods; the Sumerians only worshipped one god
- C** Older societies were based on hunting and gathering; Sumerian society was based on agriculture
- D** Older societies warred with one another; Sumerian society was always at peace

**6 Which of the following is an opinion about the Sumerians?**

- A** Much of their writing has been translated into modern languages
- B** Their society was far more advanced than Ancient Egyptian society
- C** They were among the earliest civilizations on Earth
- D** Sumerian ruins still exist in the nation of Iraq

**7 How was the Sumerian numeral system different from ours?**

- A** The Sumerian system was based on 60; ours is based on 10
- B** The Sumerian system contained negative numbers; ours doesn't
- C** The Sumerian system could not be written down; ours can
- D** The Sumerian system could not be used to add and subtract; ours can

**8 What is the best definition for the word "civilization?"**

- A** An area with a literate population and an industrial economy
- B** A country whose people all speak the same language
- C** A society based on hunting and gathering
- D** A society with unique social, cultural, and political systems

**9 What was the main reason the Sumerians developed writing?**

- A** To write history
- B** To write laws
- C** To keep track of trade
- D** To describe agricultural techniques

**10**  **Sumer was a decentralized collection of city-states. What does this mean?**

- A** Each city-state had its own god
- B** There was a single capital city
- C** There was no single ruler of the whole region
- D** Each city-state had its own language